



September 1, 2015

Dear Community Leaders,

The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School (Lansing, MI) supports the following proposed legislation and pet store program. We would like Michigan community leaders to encourage humane pet acquisitions through shelters and foster-based animal rescue organizations.

1. The Large Scale Commercial Dog Breeder Act SB 339 and HB 4898 will help to curb puppy mills in the state.
2. The Humane Pet Acquisition Ordinance to prohibit the retail sale of dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, long-lived birds and large reptiles in local communities, and to protect families from irresponsible pet retailers.
3. The Puppy Friendly Pet Store program encourages pet supply stores to make an official policy not to sell puppies or kittens.

The purpose of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School is to provide a forum for education, advocacy and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law; advocate policies and actions for animals that are compassionate and cruelty-free; and expand visibility, increase awareness and educate the Cooley community about legal and social issues concerning animals.

The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School believes the proposals outlined here will work to protect Michigan pets, reduce the number of animals euthanized in shelters, and ensure responsible pet owners can find healthy companion animals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Prygoski
Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, President
Western Michigan University Cooley Law School